



Exhibit 1

Express Mail No.: EL715973497US
Docket No.: C13929/049014

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ACTING AS THE
DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) UNDER THE PCT**

In re Application of : Catia BASTIOLI, Roberto)
LOMBI, and Matteo NICOLINI)
International Appln. No. PCT/EP00/02227) Examiner: Not Yet Known
International Filing Date: March 14, 2000)
Serial No.: Not Yet Known) Art Unit: Not Yet Known

Filed: Herewith on September 14, 2001)

For: **ARTICLES TO BE CHEWED BY
ANIMALS**

New York, New York
September 14, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX: PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the captioned application as follows. No fee is believed to be due.

If, however, it is determined that a fee is due, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the attached annex to the International Preliminary Examination Report for page 8 of the published PCT Application WO 00/54578.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Please cancel claims 3, 5, 6, 8, and 9. Please add the following claims pursuant to C.F.R. § 1,121 (c)(3):

--10. Chewable articles according to Claim 1, in which the thermoplastic polymer is selected from the biodegradable polymers. --

--11. Chewable articles according to Claim 1, in which the quantity of inulin and/or oligofructans present in the mixtures with thermoplastic polymers is between 10 and 20% by weight. --

--12. Chewable articles according to Claim 1, in which the inulin and the mixtures of inulin and/or oligofructans with thermoplastic polymers are rendered thermoplastically processable by extrusion at temperatures of between 80 and 200°C in the presence of water and/or a plasticizer containing hydroxyl groups. --

--13. Chewable articles according to Claim 1, in the form of bones for dogs. --

--14. A thermoplastically processable material comprising mixtures of inulin and/or oligofructans with thermoplastic polymers.--

--15. Use of the thermoplastically processable material of claim 10, for producing chewable articles for animals.--

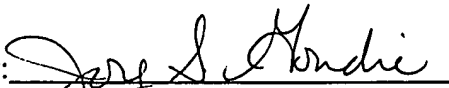
Remarks

Support for the claims may be found in the claims as originally filed.

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendment. Approval and entry of the amendment prior to examination of the application on the merits is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Joy S. Goudie
Registration No. 48,146
BRYAN CAVE LLP
245 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10167-0034
Tel. No. (212) 692-1800
Fax No. (212) 692-1900